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TO: Deputy Director (Support)

SUBJECT: Interim Report on Status of Civilian Reserve

This memorandum is for the information of the Deputy Director (Support).

1. This report of status and progress in the development of a civilian reserve program is furnished in compliance with your informal request.

2. Steps have been taken to secure full Agency participation in the National Defense Executive Reserve of the Office of Defense Mobilization. Based on a staff study of 3 May 1956, the Career Council approved this participation in principle, leaving to this Office the details of administration and procedure in coordination with the Office of Defense Mobilization. Informal approval has been obtained from ODM exempting the Agency from the requirement that rosters of Executive Reservists be furnished the Civil Service Commission. ODM has already furnished the name of the first candidate for this reserve which is now being checked out by the Psychological and Paramilitary Operations Staff. A circular letter has been prepared by this Office to office chiefs in the Agency asking for nominations since it is felt that the course of this program will be determined by the limited availability of the type of personnel qualified. The letter has not been released pending approval of the Career Council to which it will be submitted in the early fall with a proposal for a second civilian program, the Specialist Reserve.

3. The stated requirements of the Office of Training for psychologists and of the Office of Communications for communications personnel are not covered by the Executive Reserve program and require a different approach using CIA authority. Questions as to the nature of appointment, compensation, conflict of interest protection, which are either not present or are provided for by statute in the ODM program, are involved. Therefore, a working group composed of representatives of the Office of the General Counsel, Office of Training, Office of Communications, and Office of Security has been pulled together by this Office and has made considerable progress in outlining the procedure possible for this program using DCI authority. Recommendations covering policy as to nature of appointment, compensation, benefits, training period, and type of employment action are being completed for submission to the Career Council in the early fall, as indicated in our letter of 11 July 1956 transmitting to you the revised OTR staff study.

4. In addition to contributing to the revision of the OTR staff study, this Office has conferred with the representative of the Director of Communications on their problem in order to reactivate their previous request for a reserve program within the framework of an Agency-wide Specialist Reserve. On

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6 June 1956, a revised staff study was received from the Office of Communications which modifies their previous military approach to the problem and proposes the naming of 75 former employees as civilian reservists. It was indicated that this proposal was still in draft status and had not yet been completely staffed. Nothing in this study is at variance with the recommendations of the working group on which the Office of Communications is represented.

5. This Office feels that it cannot approach individuals as to membership in the Specialist Reserve until the basic authorities and procedures are defined and commitments obtained as to funds, training facilities and support, and medical and security clearance capabilities. As soon as these basic points are resolved, the procurement of people for a civilian reserve will be undertaken.



Harrison G. Reynolds  
Director of Personnel

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